

Carolina Country

formerly CAROLINA FARMER



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"Carolina Country"

Some friends visited Carolina Country.
And said, "This is where we'd rather be."
Buddy and Bill enjoyed the mountains
While Sister Sue just loved the sea.

We have relatives in Carolina Country.
They invited us there to rest and play,
To enjoy the scenery and attractions
Where buffaloes graze in peace today.

Carolina Country is Teenage Country.
Say the teenagers living next door,
"Swim or dance, you just name it,
There they have entertainment galore."

Carolina Country is a land of beauty.
There's so much that you can see.
And when you visit Carolina Country,
We feel sure that you'll also agree.

Henry H. Smith
Rt. 1, Oakboro

Electric Incorporator

When J. C. Jones, manager of Cornelius Electric Membership Corporation, signed the EPIC incorporation papers in March, he took part for the eighth time in the establishment of a new electric corporation.

Jones, the oldest EMC manager in years of service in the state, was present for the incorporation of Davie Electric Mutual Corporation, Davie EMC, Cornelius EMC, Surry-Yadkin EMC, Crescent EMC and also was an incorporator of Tarheel Electric Membership Association and North Carolina EMC.

With the signing of the EPIC papers, he set, to use his term, "some kind of record."

"The signing of the incorporation papers for EPIC Inc.," he says, "was quite a thrill for me. I am sure EPIC Inc. will materialize into the most beneficial corporation to the consumers of electric energy in North Carolina of any of the corporations it has been my privilege to help incorporate or to be present at the incorporation."

Farm Family of the Year



The Gerritt Boerema Family: Working together they won a statewide honor.

The Gerritt Boerema family of Grassy Ridge in Hyde County is North Carolina's new FHA Farm Family of the Year.

Gerritt, his wife Tryntje and their four children, Eddy, 17, Dennis, 13, Barbara, 10, and Renea, 8, received the Farmers Home Administration award April 29 in Washington, N. C., at a ceremony attended by North Carolina agricultural leaders, officials, farmers, rural residents and friends.

James V. Smith, head of the Farmers Home Administration, Washington, D. C., made the principal address. He was introduced by First District Congressman Walter B. Jones. Others participating in the program included State FHA Director James T. Johnson and members of the FHA State Committee.

The FHA Farm Family of the Year award is made to the FHA farm family which demonstrates the most outstanding achievements in the state in farming methods, financial progress, family living, property investment and resourcefulness in overcoming adversities.

The Boeremas were cited for "remarkable success" in working as a family group and for overcoming major obstacles through hard work, good management and determination. They operate a highly profitable dairy farm and have greatly increased the value of their investment in 11 years of successful farming.

The 47-year-old farmer and his wife were born in Holland. Both attended the university there. They came to the United States in 1949 and lived in Minnesota until they moved to Terra Ceia in 1957. In 1958 Boerema obtained lease-purchase contract on undeveloped land from Lake Phelps Farms and moved to Grassy Ridge. The family now owns 176 acres and rents 40 from a neighbor.

The Boeremas are members of Woodstock EMC. They have been served by Woodstock since May, 1958.

The award credited Boerema with using the latest approved farming practice to develop one of the most modern and efficient dairies in North Carolina. He started with seven cows. He now milks more than 110. He generally manages to get two and sometimes three crops per year off his land and he produces almost all the feed he needs for his herd.

Boerema recently moved his family into a new all-electric home, and he has built a completely modern dairy complex. He has a double four herringbone milking parlor with a pipeline milking system, a machine shed, hay barn, but self-feeding system, a calf barn, cow lounge, 1,100 ton upright silo with self-unloading equipment, automatic manure loader and modern equipment on his farm.



Carolina Country

formerly **CAROLINA FARMER**

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James A. Chaney
Editor

Edward Brown, Jr.

Associate Editor
and
Advertising Director

Betty McBride
Carolina Homemaker Editor

Official Publication,
Tarheel Electric
Membership Association
P. O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N. C.
J. C. Brown, Jr.
Executive Manager

After 35 Years, What?

The rural electrification program will mark its 35th birthday this month. Prudent rural electric editors should celebrate the occasion with a special editorial and an article or two recounting the history and praising the gains.

But I will not. The hundreds of Carolina Country readers who remember the New Deal and Franklin D. Roosevelt, George Norris and the efforts of North Carolinians like Dr. S. H. Hobbs Jr., do not need me to remind them how the REA Act was conceived and adopted and how it was before electric cooperatives brought electricity to the countryside.

Instead, I will take my text from the person who helped write the history. Gwyn B. Price, who has served as chairman of the North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority nearly from its beginning, does not look back, nor will I.

Speaking before a group of old friends, the directors and managers of North Carolina's electric membership corporations, at a TEMA meeting in Durham in March, Price urged that the 35th anniversary be a time for looking ahead, not for reviewing the past.

"... We don't want to spend any time looking back," he said. "I want to ask you what your plans are for the next 35 years..."

If electric co-ops are to survive in the 35 years ahead, he said, they will have to commit themselves to even greater service to people, to doing more to help people achieve the services and facilities they want to live better; they must make people know they care. The Governor's housing proposal (see page 8), is, he said, an example of a way to serve. He challenged his listeners to "pick up the challenge the Governor handed to us and carry it forward."

What Price told the directors and managers applies even more to you. You are the owners of the EMCs, you elect the directors who hire the managers. As Price reminded the directors and managers, the EMCs don't belong to them, they belong to you.

It's your responsibility to see that your EMC rises to challenges and provides the greater services your community requires. It's your business. You have an investment in it and a voice in it, and you must speak up to make sure the 35th anniversary is not the highpoint of a history but the first chapter in a more exciting story of continuing accomplishments.

Jim Chaney

COVER — Many things have changed but there are still boys, even in this age of more exhilarating things to do, who count themselves lucky when they can get away for a bit of fishing and some quiet talk. The color scene came from the Visual Information Section of the U.S. Agriculture Department's Soil Conservation Service. The picture was made near Statesville at a flood-water retarding dam.

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TARHEEL RURAL LINES

a commentary on events and issues important
to consumer-owners of EMCs/by J. C. Brown Jr

Power Company Refused Rate Hike

IN REJECTING Duke Power Company's application for a rate increase which was geared to the cost of fuel, the Utilities Commission saved North Carolina consumers at least \$44,800,000 over a four-year period. The Commission's action also saved South Carolina consumers \$19,200,000, since the company announced that it would not attempt to put the rate hike into effect unless it could do so system-wide.

The Utilities Commission, and the groups who invested their funds to present a case in opposition to Duke's application, deserve the thanks of all of the company's customers. The rate increase was opposed by the state's 31 electric cooperatives through their state power organization (N. C. Electric Membership Corporation), the Electricities, the N. C. Consumers Council, and Attorney General Bob Morgan. Without the legal intervention of these groups, Duke likely would have received the increase unchallenged.

The cooperatives, as they have done often before, represented the total consuming public in interceding in the case. Actually, they had little to gain in the North Carolina Utilities Commission proceeding, for the company's wholesale rates are regulated by the Federal Power Commission, not the state body. If Duke pursues its application for its wholesale customers before the FPC, the consumer-owned utilities will still face a fight there.

If it had gone into effect, the increase in power rates for 1970 through 1973 for North Carolina's cooperatives would have been \$1,858,402; for the company's retail customers in the state the increase would have been \$39,337,598; for its municipal customers it would have been \$3,604,000.

The Utilities Commission noted that the proposed Duke fuel clause would result in rate increases "without any opportunity for Duke's customers or the public to be heard and without any opportunity to examine said rate increases to determine if they are just and reasonable and non-discriminatory."

Chaney Heads Editors

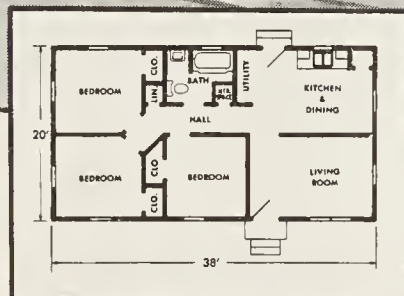
Jim Chaney, our modest editor, has been elected president of the National Electric Cooperative Editorial Association, made up of publications similar to Carolina Country.

REA Loan Funds Meager

Rural electric co-ops across the nation are faced with a capital need for \$745 million the next fiscal year, and the President's budget seeks only \$345 million. Cooperative leaders view the situation as more than a crisis unless they can persuade Congress to increase the figure and then persuade the President to invest it in the rural electric systems.



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Phone 298-5094

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. 28306 P.O. Box 4153
Hwy. 301
Phone 485-6111

MOUNT AIRY, N.C. 27030 P.O. Box 454
W. Lebanon St.
Phone 786-4181

CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28208 P.O. Box 8046
5101 Wilkinson Blvd.
Phone 399-8317

GREENSBORO, N.C. 27407 P.O. Box 7218
3025 Highpoint Rd.
Phone 292-0261

NEW BERN, N.C. 28560 P.O. Box 2372
Kinston Hwy. West
Phone 638-1105

SABETH CITY, N.C. 27909 P.O. Box 672
Hughes Blvd. & Main St.
Phone 335-4252

HICKORY, N.C. 28601 P.O. Box 546
1350 Hwy. 70 S.W.
Phone 328-1811

ROCKY MOUNT, N.C. 27802 P.O. Box 1414
Hwy. 301 South
Phone 616-9128

The Biggest Fish Are Still Uncaught

It's a rarer sight than it was when we were younger to see two young boys quietly fishing. Nowadays boys—and girls too—often favor livelier pleasures. But the fish are still there, and the biggest are still to be caught, and boys are still boys for all the changes in the world around us. And it is we who err and not they if we judge them and their generation without remembering that another generation might ask if ours has done as well as we expect of theirs.

Remember how it was when you were young . . . when you were 12 or 14 and wondering if you'd ever grow up? Remember how you and a friend would go down to the creek, or to the river if there was a river near, and how you would sit on the bank and fish and talk?

Remember?

It was a special thing to do. You couldn't just go whenever you took a notion. The wood box had to be full behind the big iron range in the kitchen. Kindling had to be cut to start the fire next day for breakfast. The kerosene lamps had to be filled, and fresh water put out for the chickens. You had to have your work caught up so your mother and father would let you go.

You'd take your poles and your cans of worms and you'd walk barefooted taking the shortest way and yet picking the softest places to step, avoiding the sandburs and the stubble. And your dog and your friend's dog would come with you, following behind or running ahead, stopping now and then to explore and sniffing and panting as dogs do.

When you'd come to the place where you thought your fishing luck was best, you'd bait your hooks and you would dangle your lines at the ends of your poles into the water. And you would hold your poles so that your corks would float freely on the surface. And you would find a place to sit and watch for your corks to bob and to wait for the sudden pulls on the end of the lines which meant fish had taken your hooks.

Remember?

Remember how clear the water was—before so many streams were



Fishing near Statesville: When the boys grow older will the memory grow richer?

polluted. You could see the bottom in many places. You could see the fish swimming, or darting suddenly, or resting lazily in the shadows. And water bugs would scurry on the surface and dragonflies would flit about and you would hear birds calling and a crow far off.

And when you caught a fish, you would flip it up on the bank and it would squirm and flap in the leaves until you could take it from the hook, and you'd bet your friend the next one you caught would be bigger.

Those were days to cherish. They were days when the first World War had been won and Hitler hadn't got around yet to starting World War II, and when there still were many people who had most of the other things people were supposed to have to live right but who hadn't yet got electricity or a car and didn't soon expect to.

They were days when boys like you, sitting on the bank, fishing and talking quietly, so quietly that if fish had ears they could not hear, would share the many bits of knowledge boys had ways of knowing then. Like how a boy you knew at school was going to get a bike by selling salve, and what bikes were best, and how far you could shoot with a BB gun, or who had just got a new team of mules. And like what was the strongest, a tiger or a lion, and who was the greatest ace in the dogfights over France, and what was the fastest, a morotcycle or a car.

Sometimes when we recall it all, we may wonder if boys today still know such pleasures and whether our sons

and daughters are growing up too fast and are living too easily and are missing the things we valued so.

When we find our thoughts running that way we can know we are growing old too fast and that we are forgetting how it is to be a boy fishing on the bank.

Because there are many ways for boys—and girls too—to fish without fishing, to talk and to let their thoughts wander and to explore the things important to them without sitting on a bank with a pole. And our sons, even as we did before them, have ways of knowing special things. Like whether the Kools or the Animals, or is it the Beatles, made the top hit song and what electric guitar is the most and which engine is the fastest, and which sports car is the best on curves and what astronaut was the first to walk in space.

They don't have to split kindling or build the fire for breakfast, and they take electricity, like television and jet planes, for granted. They may not know the things we knew but they know other things which we as boys never could have imagined.

And who's to say that the things we knew when we were 12 were more meaningful than the things they know?

And who's to judge whether the kind of world our generation has created for them to grow up in is a better world because we fished on the bank or will be better or worse than they will bring about for the children they someday will father?

Jim Chaney

She Cried When She Saw Her New Home

By Tom Hoy

May Barlow's eyes filled with tears when she first saw her new house.

Janet Church cried when she brought her baby into her new apartment.

Both women's reactions were to housing moves. But May Barlow cried for joy and Janet Church's tears were from frustration and disappointment.

The Barlow family was moving into a modern three-bedroom, all-electric rambler financed through a Farmers Home Administration mortgage loan. The Barlows will pay \$8,850 for their demonstration house designed by North Carolina State University. Their mortgage payment is \$52. The Barlows and their five children moved into the new home last December. Five other Barlow children are grown and married.

The Churches, married just two years, were moving into a small two-bedroom apartment with outside plumbing and will pay \$50 a month rent. Janet feels that after looking for months, after living with her parents, and after moving four times, "We were lucky to get this!"

These two personal housing crises took place only a few miles apart in the rural area near Lenoir served by Blue Ridge EMC.

But they could happen in any part of rural America. The rural housing crisis is a present problem for every rural American, young or old, rich or poor, black or white. The need for shelter is basic to every family. Millions of rural people are personally involved in the housing crisis.

Multiply the plight of the young Churches by a million and the dimensions of the crisis become clearer.

Multiply the joy of the Barlows by thousands and you become very much aware of how little is being done to meet the need for adequate housing in rural America.

One housing expert has said, "We just run at breakneck speed just to stay even with housing demands."

The reality is that we are just moving at a slow crawl.

Population in the rural area around Lenoir, the "wood furniture capital of the world," is growing. Outmigration from Caldwell County has stopped. New industry and expanded wood products production translate into good jobs. Many people commute from as far away as Tennessee to work in the Lenoir area.

Blue Ridge EMC was a leader in efforts to lure new industry to the area. It was in the forefront of local drives to recruit and relocate industrial plants.

It did its job well. Almost too well.

Industry came in, and soon Blue Ridge EMC realized industrial development means more than smokestack location.

Herman Anderson, Blue Ridge's energetic director of area development says, "We found that total community development is a necessity. Up-to-date public facilities, schools, medical centers, recreational facilities are a must to keep and to get more industry. But the most important consideration is housing. And it's the hardest to supply."

The demand for housing in the Blue Ridge service area is



high Anderson says, "There is particularly a need for low-income housing in the \$7,500 to \$15,000 bracket. Rental housing in the area of \$50-\$100 is in great demand. Cooperative and public housing is needed by a large segment of our population."

Anderson defines the role of Blue Ridge EMC as leadership. "We know the needs. The cooperative can be the catalyst bringing together private money and government programs through local leadership. Community needs must become the cooperative goals."

Anderson uses such examples as the Barlows' success and the Churches' despair to illustrate Caldwell County's housing needs.

"The Barlows and their ten children lived in a rickety wooden house with no heat and only outdoor plumbing. Because they qualified for a Farmers Home Administration loan they were able to move into their modern home. The Churches are a typical young family and their housing crisis is not really unusual. Years ago they probably would have left the area to search for jobs. Today they can attend a community college and train for jobs in local industry. But when they begin looking for a house, grim reality hits them hard."

Anderson, chairman of the county housing corporation, was asked if he is discouraged by housing setbacks.

"Well sometimes. For every Barlow family who moves upward there are more people who don't get housing." Anderson continued, "But in Blue Ridge we really have the means to start answering this problem. We can be the catalyst in making good housing a reality."

(Reprinted by permission from RURAL ELECTRIFICATION magazine).

Your Role in Rural Housing: Governor Scott Challenges You to Help in New Program

Robert W. Scott
Governor of North Carolina

For many years we've stood together and talked, and many times I've asked for your help. You've given it, and I think the State of North Carolina is better for it.

Now, I want to ask your help again.

You were the spirit and energy which undertook a task as difficult as the one I want to talk to you about.

When many of you used your own cars, your own money and your own persuasive abilities in 1936 to get the new rural electrification program going, only three out of every 100 farms in North Carolina had electric service.

You saw this as a need, and you knew how to talk to your neighbors, and you signed them up to become members of rural electric cooperatives and receive what we all take for granted today: central station electric service.

You, your representatives in State and Federal Government, did that job and are continuing to do it. But you, local people and local leaders who knew local needs and abilities, provided the essential leadership.

In the rural areas of North Carolina, there is another need, a very pressing need, that will not be met unless you accept the challenge, take the initiative and become the local leaders who develop programs, obtain funds, work with governmental agencies, find solutions. If this need is met, it will be because you got the ball rolling.

What is this need? It is, simply, the need to do something about the deplorable state of housing in our rural areas.

The 1960 Census showed that 48 percent of the dwellings in the rural areas of North Carolina were substandard.

I am told that there are today an estimated 250,000 substandard housing units in rural North Carolina.

I suppose each of us has his own definition of what a substandard house is. Many of us no doubt feel that a

substandard house is one that we wouldn't want to live in.

I think a substandard house is one that is unpainted, or is without hot, running water, or is without a private, usable toilet, or is without a private tub or shower.

A substandard house may also be unheated, or have a leaky roof, or a sagging floor, or a broken porch railing, or some broken window panes, or no underpinning.

What does it mean to live in a substandard house? It means living in a house that is unhealthy, unsanitary and quite uncomfortable.

In an effort to improve the quality of housing in our state, the 1969 General Assembly established the North Carolina Housing Corporation. There is a suit now before the State Supreme Court which questions the constitutionality of this corporation.

Naturally, we are hoping for a favorable decision because we think the Housing Corporation will go a long ways toward promoting and financing private, single-family dwellings for low-income families.

In addition to the Housing Corporation, the Low-Income Housing Development Corporation of North Carolina, the Farmers Home Administration, the housing specialists in our new Department of Local Affairs, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and a considerable number of local housing authorities are all working to improve the housing situation in North Carolina, both in our rural and our urban areas.

We hope that these programs in housing development will give people jobs, perk up the construction industry and cause an expansion of economic activity in other industries and in commerce.

More important, we hope that these programs will enable more and more North Carolinians to become homeowners, because homeowners tend to be healthy, stable citizens.

It takes little effort for us to see substandard housing in our cities. All



Governor Bob Scott

we have to do is go into any slum area. What we see is shocking, deplorable.

There are houses in our rural areas in just as bad a shape, though they usually aren't jammed together. And I think many of us tend to overlook these rural dwellings because they are not jammed together, because so many of them are off the beaten path and tucked out of sight.

Several months ago I called upon some of your leaders, leaders in State Government and in the Low-Income Housing Development Corporation to see what they could come up with in the way of a rural housing program. They, themselves, have not been completely satisfied with what they could develop.

Fortunately, while they were working on the problem, your National Association and the Farmers Home Administration were also at work on the very same problem.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association has developed a program which seems to be realistic and an opportunity for the electric membership corporations of North Carolina to launch, once again, a campaign against want and need—this time in housing.

I am not an expert on that program. But I understand that, partly through efforts exerted by your national association, the Farmers Home Administration program has been liberalized considerably.

It has been liberalized to the extent that the Farmers Home Adminis-

ration has called upon the local electric cooperatives to help process housing loans.

Each of our 100 counties, for the most part, has a Farmers Home supervisor. Some counties have an assistant supervisor, and there are a few counties which share an FHA supervisor.

What I'm saying is that while the Farmers Home Administration has a rather small staff in each county, you are there in greater numbers, serving rural North Carolinians, and you are well aware of their needs.

So, I suggest that you form an alliance with your local Farmers Home supervisor and that you work together to see where and how both of you can help upgrade the quality of housing in your communities.

What I'm asking you to do is to give housing the same priority you gave rural electrification. As a beginning for your campaign, I suggest that within the next three months your president call for a conference concerned solely with the housing problems in rural North Carolina.

Your task will not be an easy one. Right now the housing industry is inhibited by tight money. Interest rates are high. The cost of labor and materials in construction are steadily climbing. So are land costs, and so are the costs of repairing houses.

Aside from the economic problems, you have the task of convincing the public that our rural areas are not beyond rehabilitation.

I'm told that the President's Commission on Rural Housing seriously considered that all federal funds be cut off for towns with less than 50,000 residents.

Only local leadership, and that means you, can convince the public that it cannot afford to abandon rural America, and more specifically, rural North Carolina.

Better housing will not solve all of the many problems that beset rural North Carolina. But these other problems will never be solved until there is decent rural housing.

I am calling upon you, the rural electric cooperatives, to assume the leadership in identifying the housing problems in your areas, in calling together other interested citizens to identify and work on problems inhibiting housing development and in working with our State and Federal

housing agencies to take advantage of every program available.

You are serving the Tar Heel state well. You have proven that you can take on a tough problem and solve it.

Now, I hope you will take on this problem and prove to the state that

the people who made North Carolina the No. 1 state in rural electrification can make North Carolina the No. 1 state in rural housing.

(Governor Scott's message was adapted from a speech he made to EMC leaders at a meeting of Tarheel Electric Membership Association in Durham March 2).

Better Homes Mean Better Communities

By William E. Murray

There is more bad housing in rural areas than in all the ghettos of all the large cities in the nation. According to census estimates, more than 50 percent of the nation's substandard housing—over 3 million units—is rural.

A survey conducted by your National Rural Electric Cooperative Assn. last summer showed:

- Over 50 percent of the nation's substandard housing is being served by rural electric cooperatives.

- There are 1.7 million substandard homes on electric co-op lines which means that millions of people in need of decent housing are our members.

- 1.2 million rural electric co-op families with incomes of less than \$6,000 live in substandard homes and about half of these families have incomes below \$3,000.

- Nearly 2.3 million of the 5 million rural electric families live in homes without central heating systems, and more than 854,000 do not have bathroom facilities.

Despite the disproportionate share of bad housing that is rural, most of the nation's leaders are not aware of it. One reason is that the rural housing problem is much less visible than the urban. And unfortunately, few rural leaders are saying much about it.

The statistics should be enough to convince every rural electric member that he should get involved in helping to achieve the national goal of a decent home for every American family—the goal set forth in the 1949 Housing Act and reaffirmed in the 1968 Housing Act.

It's to your interest because new housing provides a substantial number of jobs and other stimulation to the economic base of your community—and what benefits your community benefits you.

Through the efforts of NRECA, acting for the nation's 1,000 electric co-ops, severe restrictions which limited the effectiveness of the Farmers Home Administration housing loan operations, principal source of rural mortgage credit, have been removed. NRECA's recommendation, adopted in the 1969 Housing Act, increased FmHA capability of financing from about 50,000 housing units a year to an unlimited number and made the program more flexible.

But while the new legislation has the potential of solving most of the rural housing problems, it will not do so automatically. Just as the REA Act relied on the creation of a delivery system to achieve its potential of area-wide coverage, so too will the new FmHA legislation require a delivery system involving local leadership.

The enormous amount of time and effort required on the part of FmHA employees in filling out applications, approving building plans, inspecting construction, disbursing funds, closing loans underscore the need for a new kind of delivery system. Farmers Home Administrator James V. Smith has asked all of his state directors to work with rural electric systems in establishing a delivery system.

Equally important is establishing a rural housing constituency in order to persuade the administration and Congress to assign a high priority to rural housing. Rural electric leaders can help create the constituency to articulate the need for rural housing.

The liberalized FmHA program provides a plan. Our hope is that you will translate the plan into action so that everyone in your area who needs decent housing will be able to get it.

(Adapted from a speech made at TEMA meeting in Durham. Mr. Murray is NRECA legislative representative for rural areas development).

New Plan May Help You Finance a Better Home

Up to 8,000 families in rural North Carolina will be able to get new homes in the next 12 months through an expanded and improved FHA program. Yours could be one of them if you'll take a few simple steps.

The first step is to read this article. It is based on an interview with James Buchanan, chief, housing loan division, at the State office of the Farmers Home Administration in Raleigh, and it will give you a general idea of how the FHA housing loan program works.

The second step is to visit the county Farmers Home Administration office nearest you. These are local unit FHA offices in 72 of North Carolina's 100 counties, all located at the county seat. The 28 other counties are served by sub offices, at which the FHA supervisor for the neighboring county may be found at designated times during each week. If you're not sure whether your county has a local unit FHA office or don't know how to find it, ask at the county courthouse, county extension office or at the office of your electric membership corporation.

The third step is to sit down with the county FHA supervisor, his assistant or representative and find out how you can come under the program.

The 1969 Federal Housing Act greatly liberalized the Farmers Home Administration housing loan program by making considerably more money available for loans.

In fiscal year 1969, the 12 months ending last June 30, only about \$500 million was available for FHA housing loans throughout the nation.

In fiscal 1970, the 12 months ending this coming June 30, about \$800 million is available.

But in fiscal 1971, which begins this coming July 1, over \$1.4 billion will be available for FHA housing loans.

Based on what North Carolina got from previous allocations, Buchanan said, about \$80 million would be available for use in North Carolina.

"This ought to mean in North Carolina that in 1971 (the 12 months starting July 1) we ought to be able to produce from 7,500 to 8,000 new and substantially rehabilitated dwellings," he explained. "We expect to use this year (through the 12 months ending June 30) about \$50 million, which should produce from 4,800 to 5,000 units."

Buchanan noted, however, that the program can't accomplish its purpose of helping people unless people take advantage of its benefits.

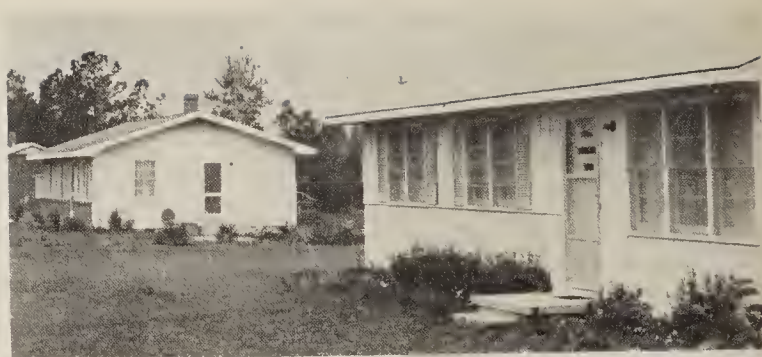
"People interested in obtaining a loan or in the construction of homes to be sold through Farmers Home Administration should contact our local unit offices," he said.

"Anybody can come in and get information.

"We'd certainly like to give him some advice and guidance as to the kind of house we can finance and what he can afford."

Although it's not necessary to have plans and cost estimates, if you do have them, bring them along. The local FHA supervisor can then discuss them with you.

"In addition to loans for single family dwellings," Buchanan explained, "we make loans for rental housing in



rural areas for occupancy by families of low and moderate incomes.

"We also make conditional commitments to builders and sellers of homes so that they will have the assurance that the homes to be constructed or rehabilitated will meet Farmers Home Administration lending requirements."

The word "rehabilitated" means repaired or otherwise improved. It means that FHA loans can be obtained to make improvements to old and existing housings in order to make them more livable.

The Farmers Home Administration home loans are intended principally to help people of low and moderate incomes.

"Generally," Buchanan pointed out, "we're trying to reach the families with \$3,000 to \$8,500 a year incomes. The Act is designed to aid families of low and moderate incomes who can't otherwise finance housing."

So if you're that lucky person who has a good income and dreams of building or buying a fine big house, you'll probably find you don't qualify. And if you have a big income, you may want something more expensive than FHA finances.

But if you need and want a better house, and can't see your way clear to raise the money, you ought to at least ask at the local FHA office and get the facts, regardless of what your income is.

If your total family income is less than \$3,000, that doesn't mean you automatically can't qualify. Nor does the fact that your family income is over \$8,500 automatically disqualify you.

"Every loan is based on the family budget," Buchanan explained. "The amount the family may borrow is determined by what it can afford to pay."

Some home mortgage lenders use a formula that says a person should not have house payments that run higher than the equivalent of one week's income, or one fourth of a month's income.

Farmers Home Administration doesn't follow such formulas. It works entirely with the family budget as its determining factor.

If the family budget shows the prospective borrower cannot afford to bear all the cost of financing a home, the new FHA program provides for off-setting factors.

"A family with a lower income may still obtain a home through the use of interest credit assistance, or by having co-signer, or both," Buchanan pointed out.

Let's take a make-believe case of a family whose income totals \$5,000 a year.

First, you make a deduction of 5 percent for withholdings, etc.

Next, you deduct \$300 for each child under age 21 as at

exemption. Suppose this make-believe family has three children, all under age 21.

Subtracting the 5 percent, plus the \$900 exemption, you get an adjusted income of \$3,650.

Farmers Home figures a family can afford to pay 20 percent of its adjusted income for housing. In the case of our make-believe family that would be \$730 a year.

Now, assume that the house they hope to build would cost \$11,000. Since FHA home loans are amortized at 6.25 percent interest over a period of 33 years, the annual payments on the \$11,000 would run \$795.08. Now assume that taxes would be \$100 a year and insurance \$60 a year. Add \$160 to \$795.08 and you get a total annual housing cost of \$955.08.

You'll remember a few lines earlier, we'd figured our family could afford to pay \$730 a year. So now you subtract \$730 from \$955.08. You get \$225. Which means our family will need interest assistance credit of \$225.

But wait a minute, a little more figuring has to be done.

Go back to the \$795.08. To simplify your calculations, drop the 8 cents. Take the \$795 and amortize it at 1 percent. You get \$393. Subtract that from \$795 and you get \$402.

Here's what Buchanan says about it:

"The family pays an annual installment amortized at 6.25 percent for 33 years plus the estimated taxes and insurance, or 20 percent of adjusted family income, or the difference between the regular amortized installment and the installment amortized at 1 percent, whichever is greater."

In the case of our make-believe or hypothetical family, the head of the household would be entitled to interest credit assistance of \$225. You subtract that from \$795 and get \$570. The \$570 is what he would pay as his annual installment.

Interest credit assistance is allowed only for "modest" homes.

According to Farmers Home policy, "These should generally not exceed 1,200 square feet of modestly designed living area" although "some additional sleeping space might be justified for exceptionally large families."

If you get "interest credit assistance," you must be prepared for the allowance to change if your income drops or climbs and as your children reach age 21.

"The interest credit agreement will be examined every two years," Buchanan said, "and adjust upward or downward, or discontinued, depending on changes in the family income and the family status."

Take the case of our make-believe family, each time one of the children reaches age 21, the family loses a \$300 deduction. When all three children become age 21, it will lose all of its \$900 deduction. Thus, the amount allowed in interest credit will be reduced and perhaps finally discontinued. On the other hand, if the family income drops, this may offset the loss of the deductions for children.

The fact that income and family status will change makes it important for an FHA borrower to consider what effect the changes could have on his ability to continue to meet his loan payments. You wouldn't want to put so much dependence on deductions for children that in future years, after the children are grown, you couldn't live with your mortgage.

Assuming that you go to the local FHA office and find out you can get a loan you can afford to repay, how do you go about getting the house? How do you get house plans? What kind of plans are acceptable to Farmers Home Administration?

Fortunately, because you live in North Carolina, you'll have little difficulty getting a house plan. A variety of plans acceptable to FHA are available free from the Agricultural Extension Service of North Carolina State University. You don't have to write to Raleigh. You can select from a stock of 75 different plans by visiting your County Extension Service Office.

Each county extension office has a book of plans and you should go to these officers to get assistance and information about the freehouse plan service.

Now, let's assume that you've been to your local FHA office, have found out about getting a loan and have decided on a house plan. What do you do next? The answer to that is that you see builders and contractors and pick the one you feel will build you the best house for the most favorable price. When you've got the builder's written agreement as to what he will do and what he will charge, you're ready to go back to the FHA office and work out the loan.

The builder will need construction money. Usually that means the person who is having the house built, has to get a short-term loan from a bank or building and loan to cover construction of the house until it is accepted for the mortgage. That generally causes problems because sometimes construction loans are hard to arrange.

Under the Farmers Home Administration program, you don't have the problem, because the construction money is included in the loan arrangements.

"Farmers Home Administration can permit payments on the construction contract of up to 60 percent of the value of the work in place without requiring a performance bond," Buchanan said.

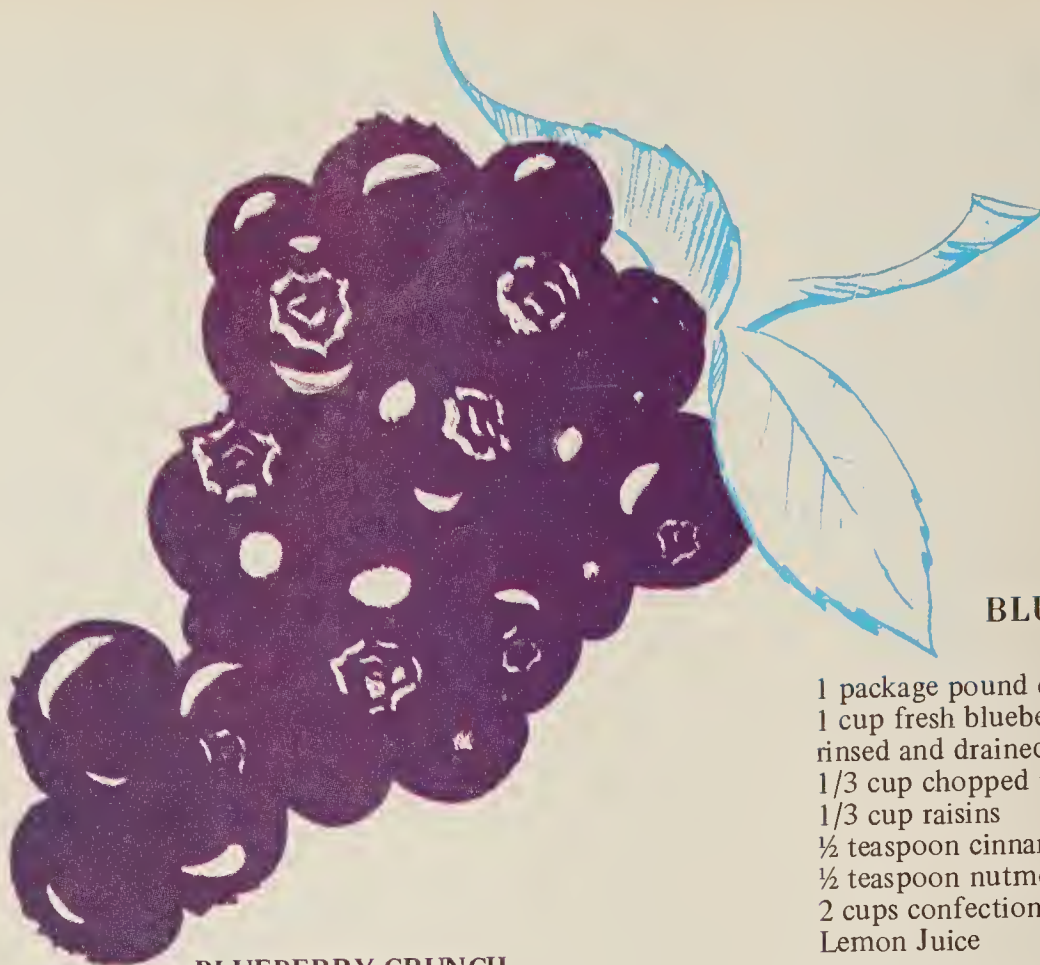
Even if you don't need a home yourself, you stand to gain from the Farmers Home loan program. The better rural housing the program will make possible will benefit your community. Thus it is important that you and your neighbors help make the program work.

You as an individual and as a member of a community organization, club, association or business can do several things. Buchanan cited some of the things local groups can do.

The most important thing that needs doing right now, he said, is for local people, organizations and associations to help spread the word of the new Farmers Home Administration home loan program. It is important, he said, to get information about it to all people in all rural communities.

"Another important way organizations and businesses can help," he said, "would be to provide construction financing for speculative builders who need such financing in order to build homes under the conditional commitment authority."

A third way organizations and businesses can help is to buy Farmers Home Administration notes. Putting money in FHA notes, or "paper" to use Buchanan's term, not only helps FHA market the mortgages but provides an opportunity for local people, organizations and businesses to make sound, high-yield investments.



BLUEBERRY CRUNCH

- 1½ cups fresh blueberries
- ¾ cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 2½ tablespoons lemon juice

Combine these and spread in a lightly greased 9 inch pie pan.

- ¾ cup all purpose flour
- ½ cup quick cooking oatmeal
- ½ cup brown sugar (pack firmly)
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon vanilla

Combine this last group of ingredients then cut in: ½ cup butter or margarine until like coarse crumbs. Sprinkle over the blueberry mixture. Bake at 375° F. 25 to 30 minutes. Serve hot with a scoop of vanilla ice cream on each serving.

BLUEBERRY MUFFINS

- 1 egg
- ½ cup milk
- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- 1½ cups flour
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup well drained fresh blueberries

Heat oven to 400° F. Grease bottom of muffin cups. Beat egg with fork. Stir in milk and oil. Measure sifted flour. Blend dry ingredients; stir in just until flour is moistened. Batter should be lumpy. Add in blueberries and stir in slightly. Fill muffin cups 2/3 full. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. Loosen immediately. Serve warm. Makes 12 medium muffins.

BLU

*The Carolina
Homemaker*
Edited By Betty McBride

BLUEBERRY TEA LOAF

- 1 package pound cake mix
- 1 cup fresh blueberries,
rinsed and drained
- 1/3 cup chopped nuts
- 1/3 cup raisins
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 2 cups confectioner's sugar
- Lemon Juice

Prepare cake mix according to package directions. When batter is prepared, gently fold in blueberries, nuts, raisins and spices. Pour mixture into loaf pan, either 3 small or 1 large. Bake according to package directions, allowing 10 minutes less baking time. Turn out on rack and cool. Mix confectioners sugar with lemon juice until consistency of heavy cream. Spoon on loaf. Cool well before slicing.

BLUEBERRY UPSIDE-DOWN CAKE

A heavy 10 inch skillet will be needed.

FOR TOPPING: Rinse and drain 2 cups firm, fresh blueberries. Heat in the skillet over low heat 1/3 cup butter or margarine. Add and mix thoroughly ½ cup of sugar and 1/8 teaspoon salt. Remove from heat. Turn blueberries into the skillet. Spread evenly and set aside.

FOR CAKE: Sift together and set aside ¾ cups sifted cake flour, 1 teaspoon baking powder, ½ teaspoon salt. Beat three egg yolks until thick and lemon colored. Add gradually beating thoroughly after each addition ½ cup sugar, the orange juice and lemon juice. Sift dry ingredients about ¼ at the time over the egg yolk mixture. Fold until just blended after each addition and set aside. Using clean beaters, beat until frothy the egg whites. Add gradually beating well after each addition cup sugar. Beat until round peaks are formed and egg whites do not slide when bowl is partially inverted. Spread egg whites over the egg yolk mixture and fold together until blended. Turn batter into skillet over the fruit spreading evenly to edge of skillet. Bake at 350° F. 45 to 40 minutes, or until cake surface springs back when lightly touched. Loosen cake by running a spatula carefully around sides. Cover skillet with a large serving plate—invert. Let skillet remain over cake a few seconds so all the syrup will drain onto cake. Lift skillet off. Serve cake warm.

BLUEBERRIES!

"Blueberries as big as the end of your thumb, real sky-blue and heavy" – just as the poet Robert Frost described them will be plentiful on the market the end of this month. Many of these berries are grown in Pender, Bladen, Duplin and other counties in southeastern North Carolina. Blueberries can be eaten by the handfuls but good homemakers know hundreds of ways to use these fresh berries. Here are a selected group of blueberry recipes for your use this spring.

BLUEBERRY PIE

4 cups blueberries
1 teaspoon grated lemon rind
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup light brown sugar
1 cup granulated sugar
2 tablespoons flour
2 tablespoons butter

Mix sugar, flour and cinnamon. Mix with blueberries. Turn into 9 inch crust. Sprinkle with lemon juice and rind. Dot with butter. Put on top crust and pinch edges firmly together. Prick top with fork. Bake at 450° F. for 10 minutes. Reduce heat to 350° F. and bake for 30 minutes until brown.

Crust

2 cups flour (all purpose)
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup crisco
1 egg (slightly beaten)
2 tablespoons water
1 teaspoon vinegar

Blend flour, salt and crisco until size of peas. Beat egg slightly, add water and vinegar. Blend until ready to roll. This makes enough for 1 double pie crust and 1 single pie crust.

BLUEBERRY JAM

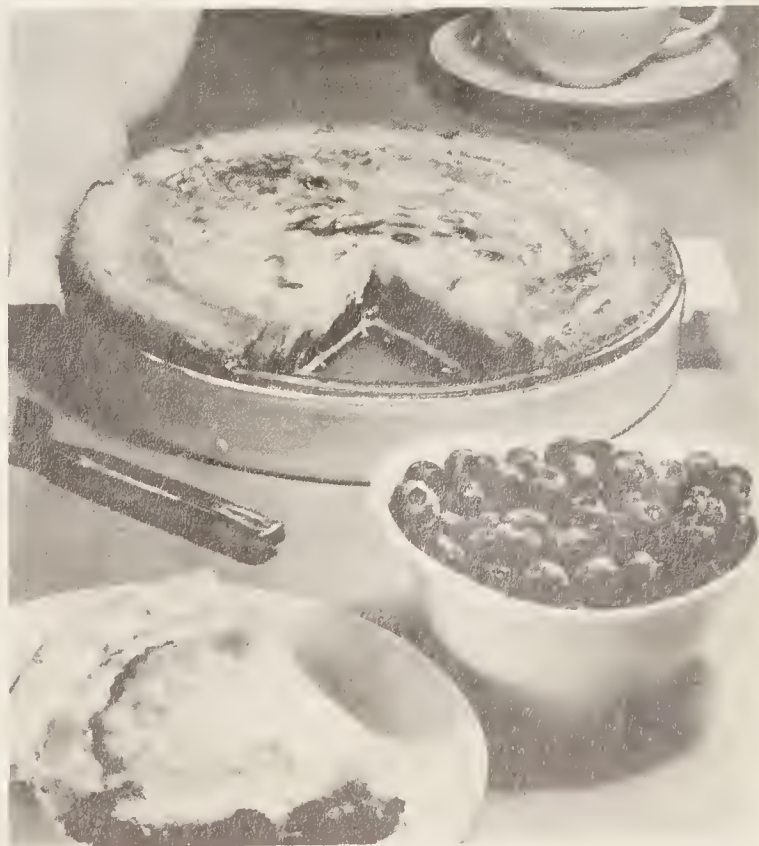
1 1/2 quarts blueberries
1 lemon
4 cups sugar
1 box powdered pectin

Choose fully ripe berries. Measure 4 cups of berries. Squeeze lemon and add two tablespoons of juice to berries. Measure sugar and set aside. Add powdered pectin to fruit in six quart saucepan. Set over high heat, quickly bring mixture to a hard boil, stirring occasionally. Add sugar at once. Bring to a full rolling boil that cannot be stirred down. Boil 2 minutes, set off and skim with metal spoon. Fill pint or 1/2 pint jars. Adjust lid according to type used. Cover jars of jam with hot water and process 10 minutes at simmering point (about 180° F.)

BLUEBERRY CREAM CHEESE PIE

1 1/2 cups fresh blueberries
12 ounces packaged cream cheese
1 tablespoon flour
3 egg yolks
1 egg white
3 tablespoons sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup sour cream
1 unbaked pie crust shell (8 inch)

Rinse fresh blueberries in colander and let drain thoroughly or dry on paper towels. Using fork, stir softened cream cheese until smooth. Add flour and mix thoroughly. Lightly beat egg yolks with one egg white; add sugar, salt and sour cream. Brush unbaked pie shell lightly with leftover egg white. Dust blueberries lightly with flour and place in thick layer on bottom of crust. Smooth cream cheese mixture evenly over blueberries and bake in preheated moderate oven (350° F.) for 30 minutes or until set.



A New Park

A high green mountain, ten crystal clear lakes, towering trees, acres of wild flowers and fun for the whole family.

That's Green Mountain Park, a new recreational and vacation attraction which was to open May 1 in Western North Carolina.

Served by Blue Ridge EMC, Green Mountain Park places main emphasis on nature and outdoor activities including camping, swimming, fishing, canoeing, hiking and riding. The park is an hour and a half northwest of Charlotte, in the Lenoir area.

Joel Dimmette, president, says, "Green Mountain Park is dedicated to conservation, camping, fun and youth involvement."

The 1,336-acre tract has 1,500 camp sites, including 300 luxury campsites equipped with electric outlets, picnic tables, garbage collection, running water, hot showers and convenient bath houses. Park facilities include the Red Barn Lodge with a TV room, a mini-market and laundramat.



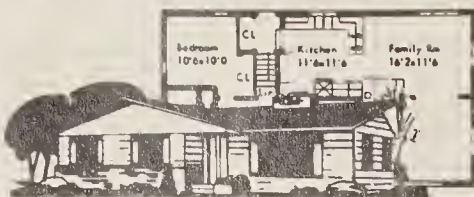
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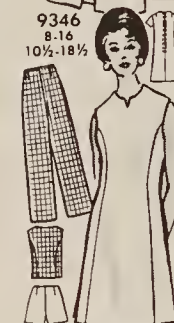


4953
SIZES
8-16

9084
SIZES
8-18



9346
SIZES
8-16
10½-18½



4884
SIZES
6-14



9090 SIZES 2-8

Pattern No. 4760 is cut in sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46.

Pattern No. 4953 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16.

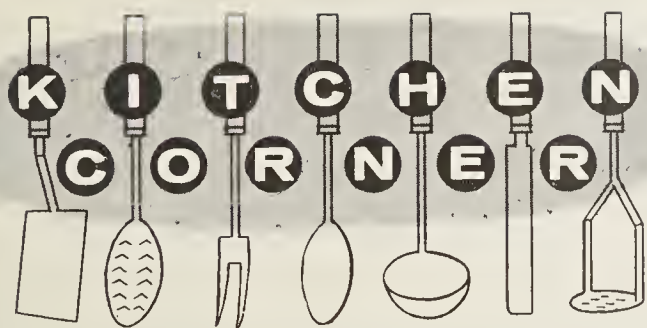
Pattern No. 9084 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18.

Pattern No. 9346 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16 and 10½, 12½, 14½, 16½ and 18½.

Pattern No. 4884 is cut in sizes 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14.

Pattern No. 9090 is cut in sizes 2, 4, 6 and 8.

Send 65 cents in coin (no stamps) for each pattern to: CAROLINA COUNTRY, BOX 42, Old Chelsea Station, New York, N. Y. 10011. For first class mail, add 15 cents for each pattern.



STRAWBERRY PIE

Strawberry season—it's just about here. How many ways do you know to use the luscious red berries? Kitchen Corner would like to add another recipe to your strawberry collection.

The recipe for Strawberry Pie is from Mrs. R. W. Franklin of Greensboro. Mrs. Franklin writes that her family consists of her daughter, a wonderful son-in-law and three handsome, wonderful grandsons. Mrs. Franklin is served by Davidson EMC.

If you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share through this column, send it to: Betty McBride, Kitchen Corner, P.O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N.C. Tell us something about yourself and family and give us the name of your electric membership corporation. We pay \$2 for the recipe chosen monthly for this column.

CAROLINA COUNTRY RECIPE

Submitted by Mrs. R. W. Franklin, 2507 Berkley Place, Greensboro, N. C.

Strawberry Pie

- 4 cups strawberries
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 cooked pastry shell

Line cooked pastry shell with 2 cups sliced raw strawberries. Combine other ingredients and cook until thick (mash strawberries). Let them cool, then pour over raw strawberries in pastry shell. Let pie set for several hours in refrigerator. Serve with whipped cream.

Free Patterns



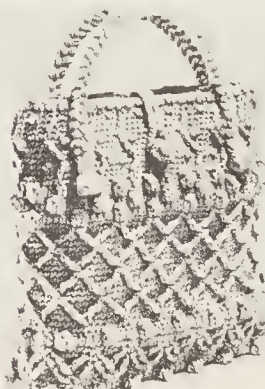
Lacy Shawl

The shawl has become a basic fashion necessity. This one is crocheted in a pretty flower design.



Fun Slippers

Fantastic feet for fun clothes. This pair is crocheted in metallic yarn with black soles.



Tote Bag

It's the tote bag to end all tote bags. Experienced crocheter needed to master intricate pattern.



Flower Wrap

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Please send me the pattern instructions I have checked below. I am enclosing a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope bearing a 6-cent stamp. (Two such envelopes are required for more than 4 patterns.)

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☐ Tote Bag

☐ Fun Slippers

☐ Flower Wrap

My name is: _____

Address: _____

Comment; if any: _____

The name of my EMC is: _____

COUNTRY MUSIC

Old Songs and New For Tears and Fun On the High Notes

by Bill Morrison

Some folks still argue whether it was the chicken or the egg that came first in country music. Obviously, the music was around a long time before Nashville became the recording capital of the world. But it was Nashville that put country music on the world map.

It's the Nashville sound of brass and drums and electric guitars that carried the music to the city and to countries as far away as Czechoslovakia and England, where a country music program on the BBC attracts five million listeners. (And did you know that Japan has its own Grand Ole Opry?)

It was Nashville with its 21 recording studios, 29 talent agencies, 53 record companies, 400 music publishing houses and more than 900 song writers that turned country music recordings into an annual business worth \$500 million.

Honesty with Heart

If Nashville dressed the music up in a bright, new, sometimes overly polished sound, it was still the honesty of the original country music that held appeal for people all over a world threatened by psychedelic rock.

Some people call it the folk music of the Electronic Age and the white man's soul. Basically, it's just heartfelt expression that has created a sort of country music madness around the globe. (It would be wrong to say that the sounds are "making a comeback." They never left us. Not even in the Fifties when we called it rockabilly.)

If its popularity faded for a while in North Carolina, it's back stronger than ever these days . . . Country concerts gross hundreds of thousands of dollars each year on a city circuit stretching from Asheville in the mountains to Wilmington on the coast. Record companies are being formed to showcase

Tar Heel country talent, including a potential singing star named Alice Creech, whose "Remember Me to New Orleans" was a big North Carolina success.

The Blue Grass Sound

Late last summer a permanent Blue Grass Festival was established near Reidsville and featured the father of that brand of country music, Bill Monroe. Singing conventions in the mountains and a fiddlers' festival in the East have long been established, as has the "country nightclub" in Raleigh of Homer Briarhopper.

Blue Grass grew out of fundamentalist music, Negro work songs, ballads from the hill country. It's unamplified and its arrangements are clean, with none of the gimmicky techniques (and electric instruments) that can be found in other forms of country music.

Blue Grass features a five-string lead banjo, a mandolin, which enhances the melody, a guitar, bass and fiddle. It's upper register music, sometimes achieving a falsetto sound. And the tempo's usually fast or driving. A good example of this form is "Foggy Mountain Breakdown," the tune that danced in and out of the "Bonnie and Clyde" film.

Its Audience Grows

Possibly the best indication of the strength of country music lies in the growing number of radio stations that are programming country music exclusively. In fact, Raleigh's WYNA gave up a Top 40 format to concentrate on country, and in August WKBQ made its debut in Garner.

The most popular thing going, as one promoter calls it, was forged over a period of centuries. Descending from the old, old ballad music of Scotland and Wales, it was developed by the mountaineers and flatland people of America (hillbilly), enriched by the Negro blues, as sung, shouted and spoken across the South, and by the laments of the old West. It traveled in many ways to many hamlets across this nation.

If there's a father of the music, one performer whose career was most influential in the beginning, it must be

Jimmie Rodgers, who died in 1933, two days after his last recording session.

His blue yodels, sung in a high-pitched voice, combined white mountain ballads and Negro blues. He was to become the first member of the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville. But later, another man would do for country writing what Rodgers had done for the singing.

The man's name was of course Hank Williams and he recorded during a five-year period from 1948 until his death at 29 in 1953. Before his heart attack, he would come to be known as the "hillbilly Shakespeare." His "Cold, Cold Heart," "Your Cheatin' Heart" and "Hey, Good Lookin'" are country classics. Some still consider him the key resistance figure during the rock 'n' roll invasion.

A History in Sound

If you want a quick history of the country sound and the hundreds of fine musicians who shaped it and sustained it, you need only study the story of the Grand Ole Opry and the station, WSM, which still broadcasts the show from Nashville.

It began as the "WSM Barn Dance" in 1925 with Uncle Jimmy Thompson, an octogenarian, who still boasted he could "fiddle the bugs off a sweet potato vine." Ever since that date—come rain or shine in the country music field—Ryman Auditorium in Nashville has been packed every Saturday night. More than 400 radio stations and dozens of television outlets have enlarged that basic audience by millions of weekly listeners.

A night "opry style" has been described by critic Donald Myrus as 270 minutes of "nasal twangs, lusty yodels, plaintive cries, the thumping of tubs, the blowing of jugs, the strumming and picking of guitars and banjos, the scraping of fiddles, the stomping of dancing feet, and the clapping of hands by thousands of listeners."

Country music, the recorded sound, can be discussed by anyone who listens to any radio station or watches any television variety hour these days.

A Dialogue in Music

Two interesting sources were Billy Farmer, a Raleigh jazz pianist, who started his career in country music, and Merle Kelly, a country music



Bill Monroe and his Blue Grass Boys performing at the first Blue Grass Music Festival in Carolina Country

tation disc jockey (WYNA), who was best known at one time as a jazz-pop programmer.

"The group I started with in Wilson wasn't a pure country band," Farmer said. "We had a saxophone and country bands originally only had the string instruments."

"I grew up with what we call Blue Grass now. Picking and singing. I liked it. But I hated the twang. Even without hearing her I know what a Dolly Parton (popular on the North Carolina concert circuit) sounds like if she's an old-fashioned country singer."

"I think a lot of people have come to like it now that it's been polished," Kelly added. "And I think it's expanding too and being accepted by more people today because people over 25 can't stand that psychedelic stuff. You'll notice even the rock stations are playing country to broaden their base (of appeal)."

Farmer: "This is a true American form of music. It came from the old

country, but we shaped it into our own country sound. It's true music. It has honesty you find nowhere else unless in jazz."

Kelly: "I don't think country hit any peak before today, but it's always been there. And it's never been exploited as it is today. The Nashville recordings give Ray Price a full string orchestra, one like (Frank) Sinatra would have used. And the arrangements are just as good."

Farmer: "Country's so many things now, and some of our major stars are country. Yet a Glen Campbell—and you have to give him credit as a musician—seems to me a pseudo hill-billy and a pseudo pop singer. He's good. Damn good. But I think a musician should be what he is. Otherwise he's selling out."

Kelly: "That's a good point. And it's one reason a lot of the old country people, country fans, are not going for this new country sound."

"The White Man's Soul"

Farmer: "Eddy Arnold's another example. I don't know if I like him because he's Arnold, a real country singer, or because he's a country singer with this polished sound from Nashville."

Kelly: "Well, some singers have had to change to keep going. But then some haven't changed at all. Kitty Wells (who used to be a staff musician at WPTF in Raleigh in the Forties) puts out a record or so a month, but she never makes the charts."

"If you listen to the old Hank Williams things you notice he had a pretty bad voice, but the old country music fans will tell you he had what we call 'soul.' It really is the white man's soul music."

However you define it, it's no wonder that even in the city, there will always be country.

(Mr. Morrison is entertainment editor and critic at large for The News and Observer in Raleigh.)

"What Will Stop Demonstrations on High School and College Campuses?"

"I think that these students are demonstrating because of an overwhelming desire to let their teachers, principals, and fellow classmates know their feelings on an issue. To accommodate this the principal should set up a type of council, different from a student council, on which teachers as well as students are members. The students should elect representatives to the council so their feelings on certain affairs can be heard. The teachers should take into consideration what is said by the student representatives. This way, a strong and peaceful relationship may develop between students and teachers."

Bruce Creech
Rt. 1
Zebulon

Bruce is 15 years old and a freshman at Selma Junior High School. His father, B. Franklin Creech, is served by Wake Electric Membership Corporation.

"If TV, radio and newspapers would stop publicizing it so much, I'm sure there would be less rioting and demonstrating. Half the kids in on these things don't even know the real reason they are demonstrating. They are just going along with the crowd. If the first few groups of people who marched and demonstrated hadn't had their faces flashed on TV and the front page of the newspapers, I doubt if there would have been much more of it."

Karen Jones
Rt. 1
Green Mountain

Karen is 16 years old and a junior at East Yancey High School in Burnsville. She enjoys sewing, cooking, playing the piano and meeting new people. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Jones, are served by French Broad Electric Membership Corporation.

"The major problem schools and colleges face today originates from the idea that a person is going to do as much as he can get away with. What the schools need more than anything else is to make less threats and to take more forceful action. At midterm, the students of our school staged minor protest by having a mock walkout. Our principal threatened to expel those who left. To my knowledge only four students left and not another word was said about it."

Tom Brown
101 Brown Avenue
Morganton

Tom is 17 years old and a senior at Morganton High School. He is a member of the Math Club, Spanish Club and Spirit of HS. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Brown, are served by Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation.

"Understanding! I think that the teachers as well as the students should compromise on what the other side wants. I am a student so I think that the teachers and principals should realize that our ideas are important to us, as theirs are to them. I think that they should let us do what we feel is best, even if it isn't. That way we could work out our own way of doing things. Demonstrations cause people to rebel to things they know nothing about. I feel that a little more understanding is all that is needed."

Mitchell Butts
Rt. 2, Box 32
Mt. Olive

Mitchell is 16 years old. His hobbies are basketball, horseback riding and reading. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Butts, are served by Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation.



NEXT QUESTION

"What are teenagers' feelings on the drug usage problem today?"

This question was submitted by Mary Alice Boone, who will be receiving \$5 from CAROLINA COUNTRY. Mary Alice's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert H. Boone, are served by Four County Electric Membership Corporation.

If you have a good answer, send it to THE TEEN ROUNDTABLE, Carolina Country, P. O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N. C., at once. Tell us a few facts about yourself—your age, school, hobbies, etc. Include your parents' name, and the name of the electric membership corporation serving you. If your answer is published, we will send you \$5.

If you want to submit a question, send it along for our statewide panel to answer. For each question used, the sender will get a \$5 check. Jot yours down and send it to us right away.

MAILBOX

A Bit of Beauty

A bit of beauty
Is a sparkling drop of rain
On a soft rose petal
But only seen
By the close observer
Although it's small
And not so rare
It took the power
Of heaven and earth
To put it there.

Mrs. Edna Sawyer
Havelock

I enjoy your magazine very much.

Mrs. Rita Price
Rt. 1, Indian Trail

I enjoy the Carolina Magazine very much.

Beatrice Rivenbark
Wallace

I like the Carolina Magazine very much.

Mrs. Bruce L. Goodwin
Morehead City

Early Morning Song

I love Early Morning,
Her face that's soft and fair,
The veil of dew shining in her hair.
I see her often at dawn
With stars in her eyes.
The sun loves Early Morning too
And welcomes her with a kiss.
Now the twain have become one
I'm glad! I see another happy day.

Viola A. Simmons
Rt. 1, Troy, N. C.

I enjoy your magazine very much.
Mrs. J. O. Hubbard
Rt. 3, Huntersville

I enjoy reading the Carolina magazine.

Mrs. Loal Smith
Rt. 1, Como

I enjoy the magazine.

Cora Ree Chester
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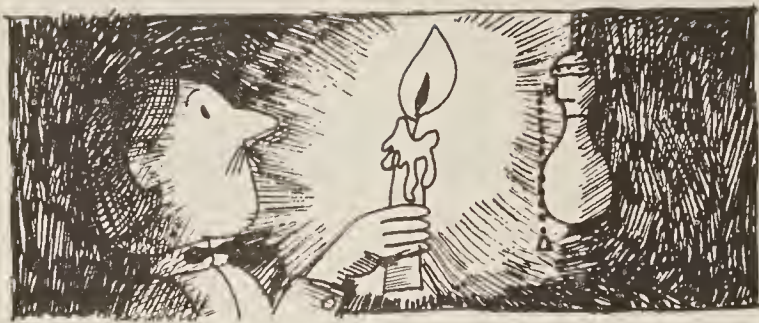
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The Power Crisis

***The Private Power Lobby Has Insisted
It Can Supply All the Nation's Needs
But a Power Shortage Shows It Cannot***

By Dick Pence

Many areas of the country face the possibility of blackouts this summer as the nation's power companies struggle to keep up with surging demands for electricity. And the prospects for the future appear dimmer, rather than brighter. A Background Feature by Washington Correspondent Dick Pence of the Rural Electric News Service.

If you've got an old battery generator sitting out in the garage—don't throw it away. There's a growing possibility you may need it.

All across the country, electric utilities are getting caught with their kilowatts down. After years of speculation and warnings, it now seems certain that many Americans are facing a long, dark summer.

Right now the power crisis appears to be centered in the larger cities of the East, but its effects could be felt by rural electric members in some areas before the summer is out.

New Yorkers got a warning recently from the power company that serves their city, Consolidated Edison. What the company told them was simply this: It looks like power will have to be rationed this summer in the big city. Brownouts, curtailments, voltage cuts—even blackouts—are in the offing.

A Critical Situation

Recently in the Nation's Capital, Potomac Electric Power Company was forced to reduce voltage by as much as eight percent in order to prevent a complete blackout. The temperature on that day only went into the low 40s, causing concern about what will happen the first hot day of the summer when everyone starts turning on their air conditioners.

Charles Robinson, Jr., who is staff counsel to the general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), recently told Congressional committees that the nation is facing "what is certainly the most critical power shortage since World War II, if not the worst in the entire 82-year history of the industry."

Robinson, who is also an engineer, outlined some of the trouble spots:

* **The Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland Power Pool** — The companies serving most of these three states were

forced to cut voltage 11 times last summer. The companies face this summer with even less reserve capacity than last year, and already have warned of possible brownouts.

* **New York** — Consolidated Edison also found it necessary to cut voltage by 8 percent last year and to appeal to the public to turn off air conditioners and other appliances. Con Edison has said that this summer it might have to resort to blacking out residential sections of the city on a rotating basis.

* **Elsewhere** — During the summer of 1968, the Chicago, Detroit, New York and New England areas had to cut voltage to prevent a blackout.

Reserves Are Insufficient

The Chairman of the Federal Power Commission, John Nassikas, has told Congress that 22 major systems had reported 1969 summer reserves of less than 10 percent. Systems usually like to have 20 percent reserves in case a generating unit should break down.

Specifically, Nassikas mentioned the Southern Company System, which serves Alabama, Mississippi, and Georgia with reserves of only 1.6 percent; the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company System, 3.1 percent reserves; and the American Electric Power Company System, which serves parts of seven states stretching from Virginia to Indiana, with reserves of 5.1 percent.

The FPC later said that 39 out of the 181 major systems in the country had reserves this past winter of less than 10 percent.

Overall reserves for all the power systems in the country are expected to be about 16 percent this summer.

What the electric industry fears most of all is a prolonged heat wave. In the first place, hot weather cuts the efficiency of electric facilities—they can handle less power in hot weather than they can in cold. And kilowatts can't be stockpiled—they have to be produced at the moment they are used. If everyone turns their air conditioners on at once, there has to be enough generating capacity to supply all the power needed. If there isn't, then there's a chance of a "cascading" power failure similar to the one that blacked out a large portion of the Northeast a few years ago.

A cascading power failure starts when one plant is overloaded and is thrown out of service. That means there is just that many fewer kilowatts available and puts an added burden on other plants, causing them to drop off the line one by one.

How Did It Happen?

Utilities have formulated plans for meeting such situations. The first step is to cut voltage and—in effect—increase the number of kilowatts available. If the demand is still too great, appeals are made to industrial customers to voluntarily cut use. Then appeals are made to the general public to cut usage. If all this fails, the company involved may be forced to deliberately black out segments of its service area in order to keep up with the demand in other areas, as has been warned in New York.

Just how did the private power companies—who for years have told the American public they are "ready, willing and able" to supply all the power the nation needs—get into the fix they're in?

One admitted reason is poor planning. Many systems failed to anticipate the tremendous growth in demand, especially for air conditioning. Some have been caught in the embarrassing situation of urging their customers to install air conditioning, then having to ask them not to use them on the hottest day of the year. In Virginia, a power company (Virginia Electric and Power Company) has asked the state's regulatory commission for permission to charge its customers a "summer differential." The upsurge in home air conditioning has made usage by company customers much higher in the summer than in the winter. The company hopes to improve this situation by discouraging summer usage through higher rates. The same number of kilowatts will cost more from June through October than they will cost the rest of the year if the rates are approved. To the average air conditioned homeowner, it could mean an increase of from about \$8 to \$14 a month.

* Delays in getting new generating plants built is another major reason for the power crisis. For one thing, electric generator manufacturers are swamped with orders for new plants. On Jan. 1 of this year, a record total of 189.9-million kilowatts of new capacity was on order. That's equal to the output of nearly a hundred Grand Coulee dams. Also utilities are complaining that new equipment they get doesn't work right, causing shutdowns that add to the power shortage.

Coal and the Environment

The industry also faces a critical shortage of coal, the prime fuel for the production of electricity.

Another growing reason for the power shortage is the emerging concern for environmental protection. Power plants and needed transmission lines are under attack by conservationists in virtually every section of the country. The result is lengthy delays.

A plant desperately needed by Consolidated Edison has been tied up in litigation for several years. A hydro project on the Snake River in the west has been on-again, off-again for years. Rights-of-way disputes across scenic areas have delayed a vital transmission tie line between Con Ed and the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland power pool for three years.

And so it goes. From Maine to California, concerned conservationists are saying its time to draw the line—we need to protect our environment more than we need more power.

The General Manager of NRECA, Robert D. Partridge, believes that resolving this problem is one of the most important challenges facing the rural electrification program and the entire electric industry.

Partridge says the power industry must accept its responsibility for environmental protection. But he also believes that the American people will not accept the alternative of limiting power production.

"Our choice is not whether we shall enjoy the comforts of air conditioning. Our choice is whether we shall have warm or freezing homes, whether we shall have refrigerated food, whether we have rationing of electricity," he says.

"I believe we can have enough power to meet our needs and still have a clean environment. And I believe this nation must set itself upon a course to find out how it can accomplish this two-fold objective. We can be sure it won't



come easily and that it will cost money—perhaps as much as our nation spent in harnessing the atom or in landing on the moon."

He has called for a massive research program "aimed at bringing a plentiful supply of electricity in a clean environment."

"On the Short End"

Because rural electrics are largely dependent upon the nation's private power companies for their power, they likely will be caught up in the power crisis sooner or later.

During recent Congressional hearings a Senator asked Partridge what would happen if a power company were faced with a shortage and had the choice of meeting the needs of its retail customers or those of a wholesale customer such as a rural electric.

Under those conditions, Partridge said, "you don't have to be much of a prophet to predict who will be without electricity—we're going to come out on the short end."

Rural electric systems own only about 1½ percent of the nation's total generating capacity. As a result of power company opposition and a severe shortage of loan funds, needed new plants are not being built.

Rural electric generating systems in Kentucky, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas and elsewhere are fast approaching the time when their existing plants may not meet the needs of their members.

Despite the evident need for power in most sections of the country, private power companies persist in their opposition to cooperative generating plants and continue to say they can supply all the power the rural electrics need.

Claims Versus Realities

A spokesman for an Indiana company recently repeated that claim before a Congressional committee. The company has been challenging construction and operation of a cooperative generating plant in Indiana for nearly nine years, saying in the courts and before commissions that it isn't needed.

But during a critical power shortage in the East and the Tennessee Valley in January, the plant was allowed to operate a full capacity for a week in order to supply power to TVA and help prevent a power disaster.

With conditions like these, rural electric leaders feel that the power companies should stop trying to keep rural electrics from building their own generating plants and get busy fulfilling their claims of being able to provide all the power the country needs.

If they don't, they may find themselves in worse shape than they were in World War II, when their advertisements admonished:

"Don't waste electricity just because it isn't rationed."

HALE!

Not an Angel, But . . .

The little girl went to a birthday party. Having returned, she was met with a very normal question, "Were you a good girl?" her mother asked.

There was a moment of silence. "Well, mother," she replied, "I wasn't good and I wasn't bad. I was just comfy!"

In or Out?

An old couple was regarding a shapely gal in a skimpy dress. The little old lady whispered: "Looks as if someone just poured her into that dress."

The little old man shook his head and whispered back: "Looks more like he started to pour her out—and then changed his mind."

Perfect Marriage

A socialist was investigating the alleged laziness of hillbilly men and decided the most likely place to start would be with the hard-working wife of one such shiftless character. "I don't understand," the unbelieving sociologist said: "I've been here half the day watching you hoe the cotton, wash the clothes, milk the cow and now you're slopping the hogs. Yet your husband has been sitting over there on the porch the whole time and not once has he offered any help. How can you possibly put up with such an obviously good-for-nothing husband?"

"Well, sonny boy, I'll tell yuh," she said with a twinkle in her eye, "our marriage is a fifty-fifty proposition—I make the livin' and he makes the livin' worthwhile."



"Let's go, we've been here since 8 A.M. and they're closing!"

The Half-Wit

The farmer was introducing his hired help to anti-poverty commission investigator:

"Gordon here milks the cows and works in the fields and gets \$45 a week. The same with Billy Jo, and this young lady, Sue Anne, cooks and gets \$30 a week with room and board."

"Fair enough so far," said the inspector, "is there anyone else?"

"Only the half-wit," answered the farmer. "He gets \$10 a week, tobacco, room and board."

"Ah-ha," said the inspector, "I'd like to speak to him."

"You're talking to him right now," replied the farmer.

What Other Editors Think

"EPIC Seems to Mean Business"

(Excerpted from an editorial by Fred O. Sink in The Dispatch of Lexington, N. C.)

The creation of EPIC (Electric Power in Carolina) . . . should be a milestone in the process of meeting the ever-growing electrical needs of our area and state. It also should bring harmony to sometimes-at-odds electric membership corporations and the cities which operate their own electric systems.

EPIC's ultimate purpose, as stated in the contract setting up the organization, is to "provide dependable power supply on a feasible basis" to electric membership corporations and to the involved cities. Unless satisfactory arrangements can be made with private power companies, the new organization will undertake to build its own power-producing facilities.

We don't want to knock the private people . . . but it is obvious that the officials of the bodies which make up EPIC feel that they aren't getting a fair shake . . . Most of the men who direct the policies of these bodies—boards of directors of the EMCs and councilmen or utilities commission members of the cities—are for the most part private businessmen themselves . . . Certainly such people are not anxious to do anything to hurt private industry.

But when private industry fails to meet the need, or fails to provide its product at fair and reasonable rates, the bringing of pressure can be the only alternative . . .

The REA, parent of the electric membership corporations, never would have come into being if the power companies had been extending lines and providing electric service as they should. Everybody knows what the REA has meant to this and other areas of the nation. And Lexington citizens (taxpayers particularly) realize what the municipally-owned system has meant to this city.

The private power companies won't like EPIC. But it's here, it has a purpose for being here, and there is strong evidence that it's a no-nonsense organization. Perhaps the private companies should take a new look to see if a satisfactory compromise can be arranged. (FOS).

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Rural Gain

Rural electric systems financed by the Rural Electrification Administration posted their biggest gains last year since 1952.

The systems, most of which are cooperatives, added an estimated 195,000 consumers in 1969—45,000 more than anticipated.

REA Administrator David A. Hamil said REA estimates that by 1980, REA's electric borrowers may be adding as many as 250,000 consumers a year. He attributed the increase to the "growth in population and the desire of many urban people to live in less congested areas of our country." He added:

"Urban Americans are seeking more elbow room, more space in which to live and raise their families. The only place they can find is in the rural areas. We are fortunate to have well-built, well-managed electric and telephone systems to accomodate them. As we move into a new decade, a family is able to find these vital services in most rural areas."

Best of Books

Even if you never try but a few of the many tempting recipes in Hugh Zachary's "The Beachcombers Handbook of Seafood Cookery," you'll treasure it. Zachary, a transplanted Tar Heel from the Midwest, obviously loves the North Carolina coast and he writes of it, its people and its pleasures with warmth and understanding. Indeed, much of the book's value lies in the personal observations and reflective essays which introduce and tie together the recipes. As for the recipes, Zachary who now lives on Oak Island near Southport presents an abundance of them—for the preparation of everything from fish and chips to fish stew and squid as well as sauces and hushpuppies. Illustrated by Claude Howell, chairman of the art department, University of North Carolina at Wilmington. John F. Blair, publisher, Winston-Salem, 208 pages, \$4.95.

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Already Well-Heeled Utilities Seek Higher and Higher Rates

(Condensed from a report prepared for Consumer Federation of America by Jim Shevis.)

Consumers all over the U.S. today are learning that the price of gas and electricity supplied by investor-owned utilities (IOUs) is going in only one direction--up.

In Fort Worth, Texas, gas bills are up 19.5 percent, or \$1.14 a month for the average homeowner. Consolidated Edison is seeking a whopping 15.3 percent raise that would increase light bills for the typical New York City household by \$1.05 to \$2.05 a month. Virginia Electric & Power Co. (Vepco) has asked for a \$25 million (10 percent) annual increase which it regards as minimal; a Vepco executive vice president says further increases may be sought. Carolina Power & Light Co. wants a 10.5 percent general increase, and Duke says it will ask for "a substantial general increase."

"The average level of electric rates around the country probably will rise every year for years to come," an official of a large Ohio utility predicts. And a report by the prominent brokerage house, Goodbody & Co., would seem to bear him out.

"Substantial rate increases should begin to have a significant impact on industry profits this year, and warnings for Moody's utility index will rise sharply to about \$7.50 a share, an 8 percent gain over 1969," says the report, entitled "Utilities Welcome the 70's."

"For the first time in a number of years, earnings gains for the industry will greatly exceed most other utilities, some of which may . . . actually show a decline. Prices of electric utility stocks as a group could appreciate 30 percent over the next 12 months."

Electric, gas and telephone utilities across the country are "seeking almost \$2 billion in annual rate increases, and many more requests are expected to be filed," Goodbody reports. "Higher allowable rates of return which we think are inevitable could go a long way toward restoring utility equities to their former investment stature."

Actually, the total dollar amount of utility rate increase requests more closely approximate \$2.5 billion, and likely will top \$3 billion before the year is out. In New York state alone, pending rate increases by all utilities--gas, electric and telephone--amount to some \$300 million.

Hardly a day passes without the Wall Street Journal reporting another utility seeking a rate increase. The reasons cited vary little from utility to utility. Vepco's are typical: tight money, deterioration of the company's load factor, inflation and environmental control costs.

No one questions that inflation, higher taxes and a tight money market are making life more difficult for the utilities--they're making life more difficult for consumers, too. Consumers question whether the rate increases are justified. And, if so, how much. If they are not, consumers owe it to themselves to fight each and every proposed rate hike that comes along.

Sen. Lee Metcalf (D-Mont.) pointed up the consumer's dilemma in a Senate speech:

"This huge and unprecedented wave of rate increases comes at a time when inflation is seriously eroding the paychecks of the ordinary residential consumers who would bear the increased cost. And they come at a time when the utilities are doing well financially . . . They averaged 12.3 percent on their common stock in 1968. I find it difficult to justify the highly inflationary escalation of utility rates in the light of high profits by the IOUs."

He added: "The rate increases need to be challenged on behalf of the public. For it is the public that pays, not only the increased rates, but also the cost of the utilities' expensive presentations for rate increases and the utilities' misleading advertisements."

Utility companies hire expensive economists and public relations firms to prove they need money and pay their fees by charging consumers extra for service. And Federal Power Commission figures show investor-owned utilities in 1968 spent eight times as much on advertising and sales promotion as on research and development. Fifty-one of the 212 major U. S. electric utilities did not spend a cent on research.

As Senator Metcalf pointed out, "They spend more money polluting air waves than cleaning air. If regulatory commissions simply disallowed advertising and other promotion as operating expense, the utilities will still be able to merchandise their product with no great difficulty inasmuch as they hold a monopoly on their precious and essential product."

Join the fight to keep electric rates from being increased by joining the North Carolina Consumers Council. Write to: Membership Chairman, N. C. Consumers Council, P. O. Box 10273, Raleigh, N. C. Also urge your Congressman to pass the Utilities Consumers Counsel Act.